GARDEN LOVERS SHORT COURSE PLANNED AT VPI

Men and women interested in amateur gardening and nature study will have an opportunity to attend a short course at VPI, August 4-8.

A. S. Beecher, associate horticulturist at VPI, says informal classes will be held on propagation, vegetable gardening at home, bird study, garden photography, landscaping, and ornamental plant materials.

Tours and field trips are also planned. A registration fee of $2.00 will be charged. Rooms in the VPI dormitories will be $1.00 per person per night with two to each room. Meals in the VPI dining hall will be 60c each. Dormitory accommodations are available for married couples.

Registration should be made in advance by writing to A. S. Beecher, department of horticulture, at VPI, Blacksburg.

MONROE FURNITURE COPIED FOR WHITE HOUSE

Fredericksburg, Va., April 30.- Recent stories in the press regarding the re-opening of the newly renovated White House are of particular interest to the James Monroe Law Office and Museum in historic Fredericksburg, Virginia, the State Department of Conservation and Development points out.

Among the rooms most frequently described is the "Monroe Room," which will become President Truman's private sitting room. This room was restored as such by Mrs. Herbert Hoover, who asked and obtained permission of the James Monroe Law Office to copy a number of pieces of the furniture which President Monroe and his family brought from France in 1795 and later used in the White House. Outstanding among these is the famous desk on which Monroe signed the message to Congress which later became the "Monroe Doctrine."

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Exhibit At Williamsburg

Williamsburg, Va., April 30.- The final days leading to our Declaration of Independence will be commemorated in this history city from mid-May to July 4 with a graphic exhibit depicting man's struggle for individual liberty and a gathering here of the exiled leaders of ten nations behind the Iron Curtain.

The annual "Prelude to Independence" period here will be marked beginning May 15, the anniversary of the day when Virginians meeting in Williamsburg issued the dramatic call for the Continental Congress to declare the colonies free and independent, with the specially-prepared Declaration of Rights exhibit at the Court House of 1770 here. The large display will point up development of the concepts of individual liberty and human rights from the Fourth Century B. C. to the present day using documents, artifacts and graphic presentations centered about George Mason, author of Virginia's Declaration of Rights, later to become the basis for the Bill of Rights in our Federal Constitution.

On July 12, the anniversary of the day Mason's Declaration of Rights was adopted here, premiers, prime ministers, and other leading dignatories from European nations now behind the Iron Curtain will come here under the auspices of the National Committee for Free Europe for significant ceremonies.

During the entire Prelude to Independence period from May 15 to July 4, Grand Union flags, the same colors raised over the capital here 176 years ago after their call for independence, will wave along historic Duke of Gloucester Street and the special Declaration of Rights exhibit at the Court House of 1770 will be open daily and in the evenings without charge to "Prelude" visitors here from all parts of the world.

The "Prelude to Independence" period is designed to commemorate the dramatic days and the historic actions taken here which led to the Declaration of Independence. In that six weeks period beginning May 15 and prior to the final Declaration at Philadelphia on July 4, Virginians issued the call for independence, enacted the Virginia Declaration of Rights, wrote the first state constitution of a free and independent state, established the Commonwealth and inaugurated Patrick Henry as the first governor of the state of Virginia.

RURAL ROAD TRAFFIC IN VA. UP 142%

Richmond, April 30.- Powered property carrying vehicels registered in Virginia which have risen from 82,564 in 1942 to 180,501 in 1951, with the resulting rise in fatal accidents in which such vehicles have been involved, will be one of the basic factors guiding speakers for the Commercial Vehicles Section of the Virginia State - Wide Safety Conference to be held here May 15-17, it was announced today by Victor B. Fitzpatrick, Executive Chairman of the Conference.

"When we add to this problem," Mr. Fitzpatrick commented, "that the volume of rural highway traffic of all commercial vehicles has risen 142.86 per cent between March of 1941 and March of this year, the panel discussions in this Section of the Conference, with respect to future highway safety, will be of major interest not only in this specialized field but to the conferees in general."

William Howard Taft was the first President of the 48 states.

Stonewall

STONEWALL, April 28.- We are so thankful for the nice rains we have had.

Mrs. Bessie Ford, of Lynchburg, is visiting in the home of Mrs. C. M. Stratton.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison have measles. We hope they will all soon be well again.

Mrs. J. H. Beard was called to Appomattox Monday morning by the death of her brother Mr. Herbert Wilmer. We extend deepest sympathy to her and the rest of his loved ones. Mr. Wilmer's wife is still very ill in Memorial Hospital in Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Drinkard and son, Malcolm; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cyrus and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick called in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard last Tuesday night to wish their son, Clifton, a very happy birthday and enjoy a piece of his birthday cake. Many happy returns of the day.

The Rev. F. J. Wingfield preached a fine sermon at Bethel Methodist Church at 10:00 Sunday morning. At 11:00 o'clock he preached at Trinity Church. He, with Mrs. Wingfield and son were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and son, Lawrence visited his mother and her parents on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Vinson Russell and children, of Richmond spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Thomas.

Mrs. Lester Carson visited her little neice, Joyce Davidson, who has the measles, on last Thursday. Glad she is most over them.

COMPOSERS FESTIVAL AT CHARLOTTESVILLE

Charlottesville, April 30.- The Great Composers Festivals of Charlottesville, regarded as among the most important musical events of the East, will be held this year on June 13, 14 and 15. The three-day festival, devoted each year to the work of a single composer, will be based on the many-faceted genius of Franz Schubert during this summer of 1952, according to the Virginia Travel Council.

Internationally famous singers, orchestra conductors, lecturers, and other soloists have been engaged to produce the artistic events of the Schubert Festival; and the Austrian government is providing exhibitions of the composer's relics, statuary, and other Schubertiana.

A number of gala parties have been planned for Festival visitors. One of the lawn parties which will be given on the terraces of a nearby estate on Saturday night, June 14, includes ballet productions of Schubert's waltzes and German dances.

Victors to Charlottesville may also see Charlottesville's beautiful Jeffersonian landmarks — Monticello, the University of Virginia, and Ash Lawn. The Schubert Festival Committee, 136 Chancellor St., Charlottesville, Va. is providing detailed descriptions of individual concerts and lectures as well as information concerning accomodations.

According to tentative arrangements just announced by the U. S. State Department, several European press correspondents will be present. The State Department will film movie sequences of the Festival for distribution throughout Western Europe. The Voice of America will record the Festival for world-wide rebroadcast and full overseas press coverage will be provided.

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STRAW VOTE AT LONGWOOD COLLEGE

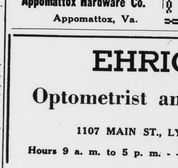
Farmville, Va., April 30.- It's "I like Ike" among 600 coeds of Longwood College.

In a presidential preferential poll conducted by the editors of the campus newspaper, the Rotunda, the popular General outdistanced Senator Taft 317 to 87 in the Republican primaries with Warren and Stassen running far behind in student esteem.

Senator Kefauver was favored in the Democratic primaries, holding a 3 to 1 margin over his Southern rival Russell. Die-hard Trumaniten wrote in 2 votes for the President but anti-administration foes came up with 6 write-ins for Virginia's Senator Byrd. In the national election Longwood students indicated they would go Republican by a small majority.

Campus editors moralized justly on the outcome, emphasizing "know your candidate" and intelligence in voting. After all, the late Senator Vandenberg did receive 2 votes!

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nts Reexamined for Draft

eral Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service, said approximately 56,500 nts reported April 24 ing centers to take the Service college test.

ntain a prescribed anding or make a re better on the test nsideration by Boards for deferment st academic year. Lo- are required to defer meet one or both of General Hershey pointed out, but their classifications are subject to appeal.

Of the 340,000 students who took the first four tests, held last spring and summer, 63% made a score of 70 or better. The fifth test was given to 19,571 students in December 13, 1951, and 61.3% made a score of 70 or better.

The National Manpower Council, an independent group operating under a Ford Foundation grant, in an exhaustive report issued in April, recommended that the President retain the present student deferment program and that the public support the program, which enables qualified students to complete their education before they discharge military obligation.

The Council also recommended that the President issue regulations which, in effect, would close the dependency escape door for students deferred to complete their college courses and who marry and become fathers, thereby avoiding fulfillment of their military obligations.



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Travel Leaders Boost Virginia

Richmond, April 30.- More than 2,000 directors of the nation's travel located to the north and west of Virginia have been personally contacted during the last sixty days through a series of mass meetings and personal visits made by thirty-seven Virginians on three promotional tours designed to bring more travel business in Virginia. These tours were organized by the Virginia Travel Council with the aid of the State Commission on Conservation and Development. All of those who took part were volunteers, engaged in the travel industry, George Summerson, of Bristol, president of the Virginia Travel Council, said today.

The groups were headed by Charles Gay, of Virginia Beach; V. L. Faris, of Arlington, and Theodore Graves, of Luray. They held mass meetings of travel counselors, transportation agents of air, rail and bus lines and information specialists of oil companies, chambers of commerce and motor clubs in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Charleston, Washington, Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Providence, Worchester and Hartford, and paid visits to travel directors in forty-one other cities, distributing information on Virginia.

Equipped with Virginia hams from every section of the state, donated by the travel industry; beaten biscuits, cheese crackers given by Virginia industry; Virginia tobacco and candy and motion pictures and six tons of booklets on the state, the Virginians were royally welcomed everywhere, Mr. Summerson reported. The result, he said, will be the largest travel in Virginia in the history of the state.

The Virginia Travel Council also entertained in Virginia recently a group of 21 directors of travel from the New York Automobile Association, who advise approximately 750,000 people a year on vacation and travel plans. The New York group was here seven days.

VARIETAL BULLETIN NOW AVAILABLE

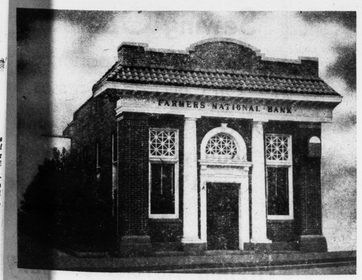
Results of crop testing in Virginia, which led to the VPI agronomists' 1952 varietal recommendations to farmers, are now available in printed form.

"What to Plant in 1952" is the name of the bulletin, which lists recommendations on small grains, corn, soybeans, peanuts, and tobacco. Recommendations on forage crops are omitted from the publication, since results last season were similar to the results in former years, and are available in the 1951 varietal bulletin. The agronomists say no immediate changes will be made in the recommended forage crop varieties, since the experimental varieties and strains will require further testing.

The bulletin deals with experimental yields, cultivation practices and suggested varieties for various areas of the state.

It also notes that, in addition to the work carried on at the main Agricultural Experiment Station at VPI and at the outlying substations, several county agents and individual farmers have made plots available on private farms. Farmers cited include: Hubert Wheeler, of Ewing; M. J. Cooner, of Dryden; Jim Hoge, Burkes Garden; C. D. Dye, Winchester; and E. B. Gill, of Accomac.

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Delegates Plan Virginia Visit

A tour of Virginia is on the agenda of the sixth international grassland conference set for August 17-23 at Pennsylvania State College.

About 65 countries have been invited by the United States Government to take part in the conference. Some of the representatives will visit the Harold Vanderbilt farm near Mt. Jackson, where various mixtures of grasses and legumes are used, and where some small plot experiments planned by VPI are located. They also will visit VPI and tour the experimental plots at the Agricultural Experiment Station. The tour will be under the direction of the VPI agronomy department. The exact time of the Virginia visit has not yet been set.

All of the previous grassland congresses have been held in Europe.

VALLEY LAMB PRICES ABOVE SOUTHWEST

A gap between the prices paid for lambs at livestock auction markets in southwest Virginia and those paid in the Valley is shown by a recent analysis of 1950-51 reports from selected markets in the state.

The market analysis, prepared by J. D. Johnson, agricultural economist at VPI, shows that lamb prices averaged 61 cents more per 100 pounds in the Valley than in the southwest.

Johnson also found that most lambs arrived at Virginia markets when prices were lower than those offered by out-of-state markets. Sometimes Virginia market prices for lambs were $1 per 100 pounds lower than those in Chicago.

The analysis showed the peak prices for graded spring lambs were reached at 10 state markets during the last part of May and early June, and again in September.

Five of the markets were in the Valley and northern sections of the state, and the other five were in southwest Virginia.

The price gap between the two top grades of lambs widened as the season progressed.

Generally, 65 per cent of all the lambs sold were marketed during June, July and August.

Listen to The Country Editor at 7:15 each Friday night over radio station WWOD, Lynchburg.

Benjamin Harrison was the last bearded President of the United States.

Report on Model Assembly

(By F. F. Carr, Jr.)

The fifth Model General Assembly convened in the state capitol, Richmond, April 18-19, with youth legislators from all over the state in attendance.

On Friday morning, after our arrival, we organized in our respective rooms and then the Senate recessed to the House balcony to hear a message by the Youth Governor, John J. Dickerson of Cape Charles; also, Governor John S. Battle's representative, Dr. Dowell J. Howard spoke to the youth legislators. In his speech, Youth Governor Dickenson recommended legislation to be passed in session and expressed his wishes for a successful session. Dr. Howard extended Gov. Battle's welcome to Richmond and his hope that out of these model general assemblyes would develop the leadership for a new and better Virginia.

Afterwards the Senate re-convened to hear an address by Mr. Ben L. Gunter of Accomac on Senate procedure. At the same time the House of Delegates heard from the Hon. H. H. Adams speak on House procedure. Committee assignments were given and the Assembly adjourned until 3:00 P. M. The various committees of the Senate killed 14 out of 34 bills introduced. When these bills were brought on the floor Friday afternoon, 6 out of the remaining 20 failed to pass.

Friday night there was a banquet in the ballroom of the Hotel Richmond with Dean Raymond B. Pinchbeck of Richmond College as main speaker. Dean Pinchbeck said that if there were more Model Assemblieys in th United States the world would be a better place in which to live. Another session of the legislature was held after the banquet with a social hour afterwards.

On Saturday morning each house met to hear bills passed in the other house. At 9:30 the committees met and passed on bills referred to them. When the Senate reconvened, both before and after lunch, they passed 16 out of the 18 bills that were brought before them. That afternoon the gubernatorial candidates made their speeches and the Assembly elected John Starke of Emporia as 1953 Youth Governor. Governor Starke was sworn in by Ivan S. Justice, Gen. Sec., Norfolk Y. M. C. A.

Then Youth Governor Dickenson read off the titles of bills passed and vetoed and impressed upon us the value of these assemblyes. The Va. Dist. YMCA, which sponsored the Assembly gave to the Youth Legislators the promise of more Model Legislatures to come.

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